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BENTON & SMITH NUT TREE NURSERY, Wassaic, N.Y.  
 DESCRIPTION AND PRICE LIST 1944-45.

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

Our policy is to carry as standard varieties only those we have grown here and which have fruited, proving that they are adapted to this locality and latitude, or those varieties which have their origin in such locations as to make us very sure that they will mature their fruit here and that the trees will prove hardy here. We also honor the findings of the variety tests at Cornell University as they are situated somewhat farther north than we are.

We also plan to keep abreast of the development of northern nut growing, from time to time adding to our list such of the very best varieties as prove adaptable to this latitude (41°45'N. Lat.). We will occasionally have extra trees of varieties which we will advocate only for more southern locations until they have proven themselves here or for those who are collecting various varieties for testing.

We will fill orders in the order in which we receive them and as our stock of many varieties is very limited, we advise ordering early and we will hold trees until you desire delivery, thus you may avoid disappointment.

This season we have to offer much better walnut trees than in any previous season, this is because we have grafted them onto younger stocks. Most of them are on one year old stocks with a few on two year old stocks. This means that a 4 to 5 foot tree is a No. 1 tree and that a 3 to 4 foot tree is a very good one. Our prices for the various sizes remains the same thus you buy a No. 1 tree cheaper than in the past. Also you will find that they are easier to plant, will live better, start growing better and cost less for transportation charges. In a few years they will be as large as the trees started on larger stocks also they will begin to bear just as young.

In case we do not have the size of tree you order we will ship the next smaller size but will charge you only for the size shipped or will refund the difference if tree is already paid for. If we do not have a smaller tree but do have a larger one we will ship this charging only for the size ordered.

#### HEARTNUTS.

The heartnut, at least the varieties we have under test, have passed the test of hardiness with flying colors. They not only were uninjured by the cold of February 16, 1943 (-34°F.) but they blossomed and fruited normally the following summer.

✓ THE FODERMAIER- The nut of this variety is of good size, cracks easily the kernels in large part coming out in whole halves. In flavor it is one of the very best. Ripens here in late September.

The tree grows rapidly, bears annually and in the winter of 1933-34 the parent tree withstood temperatures of -30 to -34°F. without any apparent injury, this coupled with the February 16, 1943 test of several grafts of this variety should quite definitely establish its hardiness. We have no 5 foot trees of this variety.

✓ THE WRIGHT- We consider this variety equal in nut to the Fodermaier and is described by Mr. Reed of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, as being



one of the very best. Rapid grower; tree very hardy; as it ripens its nuts early it should be a good variety for the far north, possibly anywhere in the U.S. Ripens in mid-September here. We can supply sample nut, see back page. We have no 5 foot trees of this variety.

These two varieties blossom at the right time to act as pollinizer for each other.

✓ THE GELLATLY- This variety was originated in British Columbia and has proven itself to be hardy here, standing the  $-34^{\circ}\text{F.}$  of February 16, 1943 without any injury at all. The nut is large being only slightly smaller than Fodermaier, it cracks perfectly and is of good quality. It ripens here in late September. We have no 5 foot trees of this variety.

As to damage to heartnuts by the butternut curculio, see paragraph in our booklet on this subject.

Prices of all heartnut trees:

Over 5 feet .....	\$5.00
4 to 5 feet .....	\$4.50
5 to 4 feet .....	\$4.00
3 to 4 feet .....	\$3.50
Under 2 feet .....	\$3.00

#### PERSIAN (ENGLISH) WALNUTS.

✓ BROADVIEW- This variety is said to be as good or better than the best of the California walnuts. It will apparently stand about  $-35^{\circ}\text{F.}$  as it was injured considerably by our low of  $-34^{\circ}\text{F.}$  on February 16, 1943. It has not fruited for us as yet. Our largest trees of this variety are 3 to 4 feet.

✓ CARPATHIAN D- This is the only one of the named varieties of Carpathian walnuts we have to offer this year. It is just about as hardy as the Broadview judging by the result of the cold of February 16, 1943. Our largest trees of this variety are 3 to 4 feet.

Prices of all Persian walnut trees:

Over 5 feet .....	\$5.00
4 to 5 feet .....	\$4.50
3 to 4 feet .....	\$4.00
2 to 3 feet .....	\$3.50
Under 2 feet .....	\$3.00

#### BLACK WALNUTS.

✓ ALLEN- The original tree of this variety grows near Middleville, Mich.  $42^{\circ}45'\text{N. Lat.}$  First prize winner in 1932-33 Michigan contest. Size 34 per pound. Looks like one of the best for northern planting. Has not fruited here as yet. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.



✓ BENTON- The original tree grows here on Mr. Benton's home farm 41°45' N. Lat. Won second prize in the New York & New England 1934 contest.

We had nuts of the 1942 crop rated by Mr. Reed. They rated as follows: number of nuts per pound-34, percent of kernel- 29.40, percent of quarters- 86.68, size- small, shell thickness- medium, cleavage-very good, plumpness- very good, color- medium, quality- good, flavor-good, Rated A-, promising.

We personally consider the flavor of Benton to be superior to most other varieties, others who have tried them have expressed the same view. Ripens here in early October. We do not recommend it north of Latitude 42° and there only at not more than 500 feet above sea level. We can supply sample nuts of this variety. Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.

✓ CLARK- The original tree grows near Lamaille, Minn. 44° N. Lat. Won fourth prize in 1934 Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest. Size 28 per pound. Looks like another good one for the far north. It has not fruited here as yet. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.

✓ CRESCO- This variety originated at Cresco, Iowa 43°20' N. Lat. It is described as being a very good nut and from it's far northern origin should be a good one for northern planting. It has not fruited here as yet. Size 34 per pound. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.

✓ MINTLE- This variety originated near Glenwood, Iowa 41° N. Lat. Size- 33 per pound. Considered to be a very good variety. It has not fruited here as yet. Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.

✓ ROHWER- This variety originated near Grundy Center, Iowa 42°20' N. Lat. It was awarded second prize in the 1926 Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest. Size-28 per pound. The place of origin and record of this nut indicates that it is a good one for northern planting. We have a few 5 foot trees of this variety.

✓ SNYDER- The original tree grows near Newfield, N. Y. 42°20' N. Lat. It was awarded first prize in the New York & New England contest of 1934. The nut is large, thin shelled and cracks out well. The tree appears to be a heavy bearer every other year, our graft has borne a large crop both in 1942 and this year.

We sent a sample of the 1942 crop to Mr. Reed for testing. It rated as follows: number of nuts per pound-21, percent kernel-25.99, percent quarters-94.90, size- large, shell- thin, cleavage- excellent, plumpness- mostly good, color- dark (nuts were left on tree too long and shucks had started to stain the kernels), quality- good, flavor- good. Rated A-, promising. This indicates a very good nut. It ripens here in late September, so should mature considerably farther north than we are here. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". One of our very best varieties. We can supply sample nut of this variety, see back page. Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.

✓ SPARROW- This variety originated near Lomax, Ill. 40° 35' N. Lat. There is some indication that this variety will bear annually as our graft has had a few nuts on it in the off-years. It had a very good



crop this year considering the size of our graft.

We sent a sample of the 1942 crop to Mr. Reed for testing, it rated as follows: number of nuts per pound-27, percent of kernel- 29.94, percent quarters-96.22, size- medium, shell thickness- medium, cleavage- very good, plumpness-very good, color-bright, quality-rich, flavor-sweet, Rated A, very promising.

We consider this to be the best black walnut we have tested so far. In spite of its southern origin it ripens its nuts as early as does Snyder, last of September here, so will probably succeed as far north as will the Snyder. We can supply a sample nut of this variety, see back page. We have some 5 foot trees of this variety.

✓ STAMBOUGH- This variety originated near Galesburg, Ill.  $40^{\circ}8'$  N. Lat. It was awarded first prize in the 1926 Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest. The nut is one of the very best being large, thin shelled and of excellent cracking quality. Size-25 per pound. Our graft bore a very good crop this year, thus indicating that it will be a good bearer. In past seasons it has not matured its nuts here as well as it should so we do not recommend it quite this far north. It will probably mature its nuts at  $41^{\circ}$  N. Lat. at not over 600 feet above sea level. From that latitude south it should be one of the very best varieties. We can supply a sample nut of this variety, see back page. We have some 5 foot trees of this variety.

✓ STONY BROOK- This variety was discovered by Dr. MacDaniels. We believe the original tree is in Ohio. We have only 4 to 5 foot trees of this variety.

✓ TASTERITE- The original tree grows near Ithaca, N.Y.  $42^{\circ}25'$  N. Lat. Nut rather small but of excellent quality. We recommend it highly for northern planting. Size-31 per pound. Ripens here the last of Sept. Nuts not dry enough to test at time of writing this list. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have some 5 foot trees of this variety.

✓ THOMAS- Original tree grows near King of Prussia, Pa.  $40^{\circ}5'$  N. Lat. This variety is the oldest and most nearly standard of any named variety of black walnut. Size-19 per pound.

Our oldest graft of this variety has borne nuts for several years but has never matured its nuts, for this reason we have not pushed this variety for planting this far north. However we now have two younger grafts that are bearing and they matured their nuts in fine shape last year, they have a crop this year so we will get another check on them before long. They are growing on dry ground while the older graft is growing in a wet location this appears to be the reason for it not maturing its nuts. We can supply sample nut of this variety, see back page. Our largest trees of this variety are 4 to 5 feet.

✓ TODD- We are not sure whether this is a New York or an Ohio nut. It is very large. Ripens here the first of October, nuts not dry enough for testing at time of writing this list. Our largest trees of this variety are 3 to 4 foot.

✓ WANDA- The original tree grows near Moorhead, Iowa  $41^{\circ}15'$  N. Lat. Well thought of by Prof. Drake. Size-28 per pound. We have only 2 to 3 foot trees of this variety.



✓WIARD-This variety originated near Upsilanti, Mich. 41°15'N. Lat. Third prize winner in the 1934 Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest. This looks like another good one for northern planting. Size- 35 per pound. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Our graft of this variety has not borne as yet. We have a few 5 foot trees of this variety.

#### Prices of all black walnut trees.

Over 5 feet	.....\$3.00
4 to 5 feet	.....\$2.50
3 to 4 feet	.....\$2.25
2 to 3 feet	.....\$2.00
Under 2 feet	.....\$1.50

#### HICKORIES.

At present nut growers are almost overwhelmed with a tremendous list of varieties of hickories, of many of which very little is known as to their relative merits. This is the result of nut contests and the searching-out of superior nut trees by nut enthusiasts.

In a few years a great deal more will be known about these various varieties as several test orchards are being established in different parts of the country to test them for different latitudes and conditions. We have such an orchard started in which we now have more than a hundred different named varieties of hickory and hickory hybrids, more of these have borne this year so that we will be able to have several more varieties tested. Also we are getting more data on time of ripening, etc. Very likely we will have some new ones to add to our list of trees for sale next season.

At present the best guide available as to the best varieties to plant is a list prepared by Mr. C. A. Reed, Associate Pomologist, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Reed is beyond doubt the best authority at present on nut varieties. Mr. Reed has listed 14 varieties as the ones he considers best and marks them A, then he has listed 12 more varieties he considers second best and marks them B. However he states that time may prove some varieties on the B list as superior to some varieties on the A list, also some varieties not on either list may prove superior to those listed.

Another equally valuable source of such information, especially for the Northeast, is a copy of "Arnoldia" written by Dr. L. M. MacDaniels, Head of the Department of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, Cornell University and printed by the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

✓ANTHONY- A true shagbark. This variety originated near Sterling, Ill. and has been grown for many years. Rated B by Reed. We have only three year old trees of this variety.

✓BEEMAN- A shagbark. This variety originated near New Preston, Conn. Said to be an annual bearer. So far as we know it has never been entered in a nut contest and is not rated by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.



- ✓ BERGER- A shellbark. Took first prize in the miscellaneous hickory class of the Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest of 1934. This variety originated near Cove Gap, Pa. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have a few nuts on our graft of this variety this year so will know more about it soon. We have only 2 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ DAVIS- A shagbark. This variety originated here within five miles of our nursery. First prize winner in the New York & New England contest of 1934 (Best of 442 entries). Nut of medium size, cracking quality very good, flavor sweet and rich, a vigorous grower. According to our grafts here and those at Cornell this variety gives promise of being a good bearer. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". Ripens here in late September. We can supply sample nuts of this variety, see back page. We have 1, 2 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ FOX- A shagbark. First prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest of 1934. Nut a little larger than Davis. Cracking quality good, flavor very good true shagbark. A vigorous grower. Original tree grows near Fonda, N. Y.  
The nuts of this variety have been rather disappointing as grown on our grafts here. We are making a study of this variety and are conducting a test to try to find out if there is a bud variation in this variety which might account for the excellent nuts that won the first prize in the above mentioned contest and the poorer nuts as produced by the grafts from this tree. This variety is early, ripening here in mid-September. We can supply a sample nut of this variety, see back page. We have only 2 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ GLOVER- A shagbark. An old variety which has stood the test of time. It originated near Shelton, Conn. Our graft of this variety has not borne as yet. We have seen only a few of these nuts, they were in all respects the best hickory we have ever seen. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 1 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ GOHEEN- A shagbark. Second prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Assn., Inc. contest of 1934. This variety originated near Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ HAGEN- A shagbark. This is probably an Iowa nut. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only 1 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ HAND- A shagbark. This is probably an Iowa nut. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only 1 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ HEISNER- A shagbark. This variety originated near Danville, Iowa. Rated B by Mr. Reed. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ JOLLIFFE- A shagbark. This appears to be a very good variety but it originated near Uffington, W. Va. we do not recommend it for northern planting until it has borne here showing whether it is early enough for the north. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.



- ✓ KENTUCKY- A shagbark. This variety originated near East View, Ky. We have seen nuts of this variety which were grown at Ithaca, N.Y. they were well matured and rated very high as tested by Dr. MacDaniels. The only criticism being that the shell seems to be a little too thin for best cleavage, tending to crush and the kernel tending to cling slightly to the shell. We now recommend this variety for northern planting. We have only 2 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ KIRTLAND- A shagbark. This is one of the older named varieties and thus has stood the test of time. This variety originated near Yalesville, Conn. Ripens here in late September. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ LINGENFELTER- A shagbark. This variety originated near McKee, Pa. Mr. Reed considers this nut with a good deal of favor as to bearing and especially as to cracking quality, based on the record of a graft growing at Beltsville, Md. However we cannot recommend it for planting north of Pennsylvania until it has borne here. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ MILLER- A shagbark. This variety originated near North Branch, Mich. It should be well suited for northern planting. Rated B by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ MINNIE- A shagbark. Our graft of this variety bore in 1942 and the nuts rated well when tested by Mr. Reed. Ripens here soon after the middle of September. We recommend this variety highly for northern planting. We have only 1 and 2 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ MURDOCK-. A shagbark. Of far northern origin, original tree grows on the shore of Lake Champlain in Northern New York. Cracking quality good, flavor very best, size of nut about medium. This variety should succeed to the northern limits of the shagbark. We have 1, 2 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ NEILSON- A shagbark. This variety originated in Ontario, Canada. It is considered to be one of the best and should do well in the North. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 1 and 2 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ STRATFORD- A shagbark. We do not know where this variety originates, probably in Iowa as it was introduced by Snyder Bros. in 1920. Ripens here in late September. Rated B. by Mr. Reed. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ SWAIM- A shagbark. This variety originated near South Bend, Indiana. So cannot be too sure for the far north until it has fruited here thus proving its adaptability. Rated B by Mr. Reed. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ TAYLOR- A shagbark. This variety originated near Stamford, Conn. This is one of the older varieties thus has stood the test of time. Rated A by Mr. Reed. We have only 1 year old trees of this variety.



- ✓ WATSON- A shagbark. This variety originated near Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Won seventh place in the New York and New England contest of 1934. Should be a good variety for northern planting. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ WESCHKE- A shagbark. This variety comes from Iowa and is recommended highly by Mr. Carl Weschke of St. Paul, Minn. So must be well adapted to far northern planting. We have only 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ WHITNEY- A shagbark. First prize winner in the Ohio contest of 1934. This variety originates near Bersa, Ohio. Rated A by Mr. Reed. Recommended by Dr. MacDaniels in "Arnoldia". We have only 1 and 3 year old trees of this variety.
- ✓ WILCOX- A shagbark. Second prize winner in the Ohio contest of 1934. This variety originated near Geneva, Ohio. Our graft of this variety bore in 1942 also it had a very large crop on it this year, thus indicating that it will be a good bearer. Samples of the 1942 crop were rated very well by both Mr. Reed and Dr. MacDaniels. It ripens here in mid-September, it is as early as Fox and should succeed as far north as that variety. We consider it one of the very best varieties that have borne so far in our test orchard. We can supply sample nuts of this variety, see below. We have only 1 and 2 year old trees of this variety.

All of our hickory trees are priced at \$5.00 each regardless of age of grafts. The one year old grafts are very small but we personally prefer them to the older trees. State age of graft you prefer when ordering.

#### SAMPLE NUTS AVAILABLE.

We have sufficient nuts of a few varieties so that we can send out samples to those who wish them, so long as the supply lasts.

In order to insure that these samples will go to those who are really interested and likely to order trees, also to help defray the expense of packaging and mailing. We charge 10¢ for each variety requested. Stamps will be accepted for orders of less than one dollar.

However we will enclose with each package of samples, a credit slip which can be applied at full value on your first order for trees. If you send check for trees at time of ordering, just deduct amount of credit shown on slip and enclose slip with order, if you do not pay for trees at time of ordering just enclose slip with order and we will deduct full amount from your bill.

In many cases a sample will consist of only one nut as our supply of nuts of some of the varieties is very limited.

We can supply samples of the following varieties.

Wright heartnut (One nut)	Benton black walnut (Two nuts)
Davis hickory (Two nuts)	Snyder " " (One nut)
Fox " (One nut)	Sparrow " " (One nut)
Wilcox " (Two nuts)	Stambough " " (One nut)
	Thomas " " (One nut)